

## REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 20, 2007 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-20 and 45-53 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-20 and 45-53 stand rejected. Claims 21-44 and 54-63 have been cancelled without prejudice.

The present amendment is intended to place the application in condition for allowance by canceling non-elected Claims 21-44 and 54-63. Applicants wish to emphasize that the cancellation of Claims 21-44 and 54-63 is without prejudice, and Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application or applications to prosecute the subject matter of these claims.

The objections to the drawings are respectfully traversed. The Office Action objects to the originally filed drawings for certain informalities. The originally filed drawings were informal, and formal drawings were filed with the Patent Office on March 12, 2002. Applicants have re-submitted the formal drawings with the present amendment. The formal drawings overcome the objections set forth herein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

The objections to the specification for certain informalities are respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended the originally filed specification, namely paragraphs [0028], [0040], and [0041] as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action to address the informalities recited in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the specification of the application be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 9, 11, 19, 45, and 52 have been objected to for certain informalities. The objections to Claims 1, 9, 11, 19, 45, and 52 for informalities are respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 9, 11, 19, 45, and 52 as suggested by the Office Action to address the informalities recited in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 1, 9, 11, 19, 45, and 52 for informalities be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-20 and 45-53 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Claims 1, 11, and 45 “contain a clause of intended use in the independent claims which renders the claims indefinite.” Applicants traverse this assertion. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 11, and 45 to address this rejection. For example, Claim 1 recites, among other things, “prompting a customer to input into the computer information describing the energy-related asset being financed...” and “recommending to the customer based on the analyzed information a type of financing for financing the energy-related asset....” Independent Claims 11 and 45 include similar recitations. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claims 1, 11, and 45 are definite and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 1, 11, and 45.

The Office Action also asserts that Claims 2, 12, and 46 are unclear and vague “because the reader is expecting to read a listing of the financing types prior to the enabling a customer to select a financing type to be evaluated by the computer.” Applicants traverse this assertion. Applicants have amended Claims 2, 12, and 46 to address this rejection. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claims 2, 12, and 46 are definite and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 2, 12, and 46.

Additionally, the Office Action asserts that Claims 3, 13, and 47 contain conditional statements making it “unclear what happens if accessing an equity valuation tool if the customer does not input project common equity as the....” Applicants traverse this assertion. Applicants have amended Claims 3, 13, and 47 to address this rejection. For example, Claim 3 recites “enabling the customer to select a financing type to be evaluated by the computer

including a project common equity...accessing an equity valuation tool when the customer inputs project common equity as the financing type....” Claims 13 and 47 include similar recitations. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claims 3, 13, and 47 are definite and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 3, 13, and 47.

The Office Action also asserts that Claims 10, 20, and 53 contain “an acronym and it is unclear what the acronym stands for.” Applicants traverse this assertion. Applicants have amended Claims 10, 20, and 53 to address this rejection. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claims 10, 20, and 53 are definite and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 10, 20, and 53.

Furthermore, Claims 2-10, 12-20, and 46-53 have been rejected because they depend from a rejected base claim. Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion. Claims 2-10, 12-20, and 46-53 depend from independent Claims 1, 11, and 45. When the recitations of Claims 2-10, 12-20, and 46-53 are considered with the recitations of Claims 1, 11, and 45, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 2-10, 12-20, and 46-53 likewise satisfy Section 112, second paragraph.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 1-20 and 45-53.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel M. Fitzgerald  
Registration No. 38,880  
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP  
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740  
(314) 621-5070